

Khomeini sues Yugoslav newspaper

BELGRADE (R) — Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini is suing a Yugoslav newspaper which criticized his call for the killing of Salman Rushdie, author of "The Satanic Verses," the editor said Friday. Stanislav Marinkovic, editor-in-chief of the official daily Yugoslav newspaper Borba, told Reuters a suit had been filed in Khomeini's name against him. Borba journalist Vesna Roganovic, and prominent Yugoslav novelist Slobodan Selcic, Roganovic conducted an interview with Selcic, published in Borba in February, in which he condemned the threat against Rushdie, Marinkovic said. No threats had been made against Borba, and Marinkovic said it was Khomeini's right to seek satisfaction through the suit filed in a Belgrade court. "I believe our courts are democratic and impartial enough to make the right decision," he said. Borba was the only Yugoslav newspaper to publish excerpts from "The Satanic Verses." It started publication in February during a visit by Iranian President Ali Khamenei but stopped after the first installment at the urging of the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry. It resumed after Khamenei left the country.

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جورنال تايمز يومية مستقلة تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الرأي



U.S. opposes PLO role in U.N.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department, responding Friday to a call by a group of senators, registered its opposition to any effort to grant the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) membership status in the United Nations. "In our view, the self-declared Palestinian state, which we do not recognize, does not meet the generally accepted international law criteria for statehood," a department statement said. However, the PLO permanent observer at the United Nations in New York, Zuhdi Lubis Terzi, said there was no effort to obtain full membership in the international body. The 38 senators had urged Secretary of State James Baker Thursday to oppose U.N. recognition of the PLO as a member state. An upgrading of its current observer status "Any successful move by the U.N. or related agencies to recognize the 'State of Palestine' would force us to seriously consider a range of punitive action, including withholding U.S. financial participation from those agencies," the lawmakers said in a letter. Republican Sen. Robert W. Kasten and those who joined him said the PLO was engaged in "a public relations ploy to make headlines" rather than "confidence-building measures to make progress."

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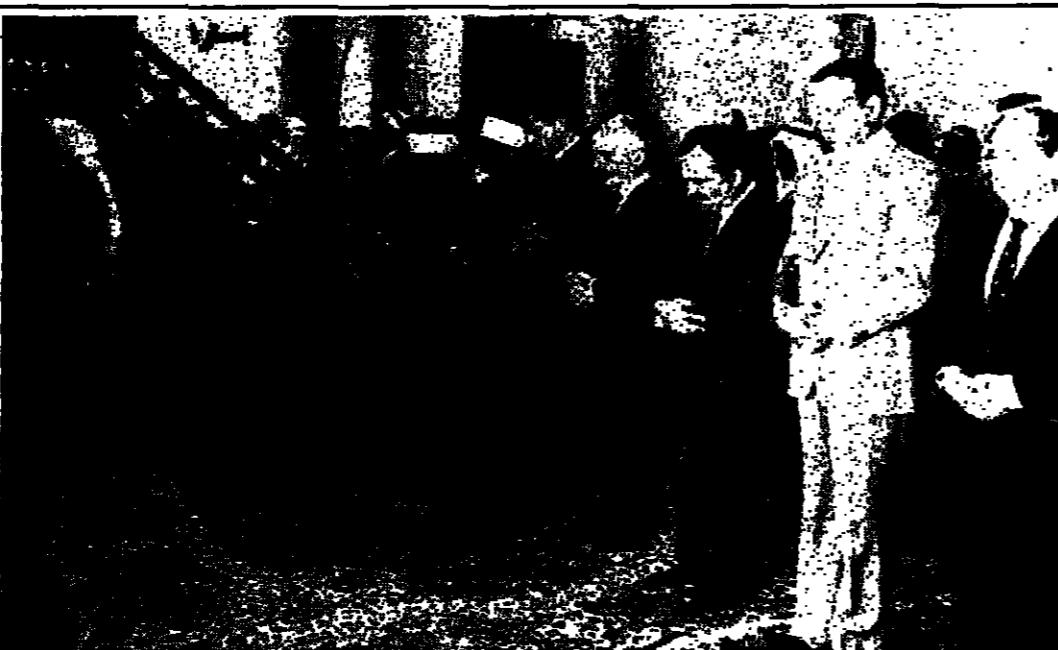
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King attends prayers

His MAJESTY King Hussein attended Friday prayers at the Prince Hassan mosque in Shmeissani and listened to a sermon delivered by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Secretary General Ahmad Belayel.

Belayel stressed the importance of Arab and Islamic solidarity, whose foundations have been laid by Sharif and said Jordan, led by King Hussein, always worked towards achieving solidarity. The 1987 Amman summit contributed to overcoming divisions and led to the creation of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC), which was the outcome of efforts of the King and other ACC leaders, he said.



Attending the prayers were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Husein, Royal Court Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, King Hussein's special advisor, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat and senior officials.

Qasem, Bessaieh review Mideast developments

AMMAN (J.T.) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and Algerian Foreign Minister Bousalem Bessaieh held talks here Friday on the latest developments in the Middle East and issues of mutual interest, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported.

Bessaieh arrived here earlier in the day via Ramtha from Syria. Petra said he was carrying a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

In a statement to Petra, Bessaieh described the message as part of ongoing consultations among Arab leaders. He said his



Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem Friday meets Algerian Foreign Minister Bousalem Bessaieh (Petra photo)

Arab panel to pursue efforts; French mission delayed

Qasem reports on Kuwait meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem returned home Friday from Kuwait after taking part in the meetings of the six-member Arab ministerial committee on Lebanon.

In an arrival statement, Qasem said the committee listened to the ideas and proposals of the Lebanese Front and discussed with it suggestions proposed by the committee to solve the Lebanese crisis.

In light of the outcome of its meetings with the various Lebanese parties, the committee is currently drawing up its final perception of a solution to the crisis in Lebanon, he said.

Qasem voiced hope that the various Lebanese parties will respond to the repeated calls for a ceasefire and for initiating a national political dialogue aimed at avoiding further bloodshed and saving Lebanon and the whole region from further suffering and tragedies.

Shelling shakes Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Intermittent blasts shook Beirut Friday, keeping most of the war-weary population huddled in underground shelters and delaying a French mercy mission.

Only a handful of people ventured out of hiding after a ferocious 20-hour duel subsided into sporadic mortar exchanges early in the day.

Some shopped for food from neighbourhood groceries that opened for a few hours. Others, having been trapped in their offices since the day before, made use of the relative lull to rejoin their families.

A police spokesman said 25,000 shells and rockets hit Beirut's eastern and western sectors in the duels that began Thursday morning, coinciding with the 14th anniversary of the outbreak of civil war in 1975.

Nineteen people were killed and 50 wounded in the exchanges, which eased after an Arab League panel meeting in Kuwait issued its third ceasefire appeal in the past month.

By police count, 215 people have been killed and 727 wounded in the confrontation that began March 8 between Michel Aoun's army units and an alliance of Syrian troops and Lebanese militiamen.

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah, who heads the six-mem-

ber Arab League panel on Lebanon, expressed "extreme regret and sorrow" over the collapse of an April 5 ceasefire the panel arranged.

"The committee hopes all parties will respond to this appeal and declare their immediate adherence to the ceasefire," he told reporters.

Sheikh Sabah urged combatants "to live up to the dictates of their conscience and shoulder their responsibility towards innocent people."

He said the mediation panel would continue its mission of "intensive contacts with a view to putting an end to the sufferings of the Lebanese people."

Sheikh Sabah said he made the ceasefire appeal in telephone calls to Aoun and Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Sheikh Sabah indicated that the committee intended more talks with the Lebanese factions before reporting to the Arab League foreign ministers' council.

On Thursday, the panel wrapped up two days of talks with a five-member delegation of right-wing Christian Lebanese politicians headed by George Saadeh of the Falange Party.

The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) quoted unnamed "ranking sources," as saying they expected the committee to re-

sume its contacts with the Lebanese factions within two weeks.

Diplomatic sources said the Arab League was expected to call for an Arab summit on Lebanon next month after studying the panel's proposals for a peace solution.

Hoss appealed for a ceasefire Friday "in the name of the suffering people in east and west Beirut."

"Isn't it time for everyone to realize that after 14 years of destructive war, resorting to weapons does not achieve anything?" he asked.

The bombardment also forced French minister for Humanitarian Assistance Bernard Kouchner to delay his mercy mission.

A source at the civilian cabinet of acting Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss said French navy vessels, the hospital ship La Rance, and the oil tanker Penhors, remained outside Lebanese territorial waters because of "differences between local militias on the French assistance."

La Rance was originally scheduled to drop anchor in neutral Lebanese waters Thursday afternoon to treat casualties.

Penhors was last reported sailing towards power stations to provide them with badly needed supplies of fuel oil to keep them operating.

Egypt would be invited to Morocco although it has not yet been readmitted to the Arab League.

Last week, King Hassan sent his foreign minister, Abdul Latif Filali, to Damascus. According to senior diplomatic sources he secured an undertaking that President Hafez Al Assad would not boycott a Moroccan summit to which Egypt was invited.

Syria cut ties with Morocco in 1986 in protest over the Moroccan monarch's meeting with Shimon Peres, then Israeli prime minister. They were restored in January after mediation by Saudi Arabia.

King Hassan strongly supports recent initiatives of the PLO including recognition of Israel's right to exist.

"No one can any longer deny the positive and constructive nature of the positions they (the Palestinians) keep taking for the sake of peace," the king said in a speech last month.

"In order to give more weight to the actions and new approaches of the Palestinians, many Arab heads of state, among whom we count ourselves, think the time has come for the holding of an Arab summit," he added.

Cedric Thornberry, director of the U.N. Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG), told a news conference churches were being cleared to serve as safe havens for SWAPO guerrillas heading for Angola.

SWAPO fighters begin returning to Angola

LUANDA (Agencies) — The Namibian nationalist group SWAPO said Friday that its guerrillas, some of them wounded, had started arriving in Angola under an agreement to withdraw them from Namibia.

"They are coming... by themselves," SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) Information Secretary Hidipo Hamutenya told Reuters in Luanda.

Hamutenya said the guerrillas were being met on the border by SWAPO leaders and Angolan officials and would be confined to bases north of the 16th Parallel, some 150 kilometres from the Namibian frontier as agreed in a withdrawal scheme worked out by South Africa, Angola and Cuba Sunday.

The scheme is aimed at saving a U.S. independence plan for Namibia which was threatened by

eight days of fierce fighting between SWAPO guerrillas and South African-led security forces that broke out April 1, the day the plan began.

South African Foreign Minister P. Botha said about 350 SWAPO had withdrawn and about 900 remained in Namibia as of Friday, a day before a deadline for them to leave.

Botha said about 1,600 guerrillas infiltrated into northern Namibia starting April 1, the first day of a ceasefire and a year-long, United Nations-supervised process to make the territory independent. Over the next eight days, 263 guerrillas and 27 members of the South African-led security forces reportedly were killed in fighting.

Botha's estimate of SWAPO fighters in Namibia was lower than previous South African estimates of 1,900. He said 22 had been captured.

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No change in dinar's exchange rate; subsidies unaffected

Cabinet approves economic, financial accord with IMF

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — The government announced Friday it had agreed on a national financial and economic programme designed to reduce the budget deficit through increasing domestic revenues and curtailing expenditure without reducing subsidies on basic foodstuffs.

The five-year-programme, adopted Thursday by the Council of Ministers, aims at stabilising the dinar at its present exchange rate, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted Finance Minister Hanna Odeh as telling the Cabinet Thursday.

He said the IMF saw the rate fixed by the Central Bank of Jordan (CJB) in February at 540 to the dollar as realistic and appropriate.

The minister said the programme also called for rescheduling of

Jordan's foreign debt.

"This programme complements measures taken by the government last year and will allow Jordan to get extra financial resources from the IMF and the World Bank of up to \$275 million in the next 18 months," Odeh said.

Additional bilateral help would come from as friendly countries, he said.

The programme is primarily intended to cut the government budget deficit through reduction of government spending, increasing revenues and rescheduling

foreign debts, improving investment opportunities and maintaining control on exports and overcoming inflation and enhancing the role of the private sector.

Odeh said. After discussions and detailed

briefing by Odeh, the Cabinet endorsed the programme in its Thursday session, held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i.

Rifa'i issued directives to the various government ministries and public institutions to take the necessary steps for implementing the programme, Petra said.

The Cabinet welcomed the

agreement and thanked the financial, economic and planning committees for the efforts they made to work it out.

The Cabinet also listened to a detailed report by Odeh on the outcome of the talks and discussions with the IMF team since March 18.

Odeh said the financial and economic measures adopted by the government last year were described by the IMF team as sound and correct.

Odeh led the Jordanian team to the talks with the IMF. The team included the ministers of energy and mineral resources,

planning, industry and trade, supply and the CJB governor.

"We have concluded the talks and reached an understanding on a letter of intent," Mohammad Yacoub, deputy director of the IMF's Middle East Department, told Reuters earlier.

He said he would take the proposals back to IMF headquarters in Washington in a few days. The IMF's management would discuss them before sending back a letter of confirmation.

Yacoub said he was happy with the deal but would not say how long the IMF might take to give formal approval.

A source close to the talks was quoted by Reuters as saying that the two sides had agreed on ways to reduce Jordan's budget deficit by 18 million dinars and boost government revenue by 39 million dinars a year from 1989 onwards.

The source said the government would set a 1989 public borrowing ceiling of 215 million dinars, including 140 million dinars in domestic loans and 75 million dinars in soft loans from abroad.

In subsequent years, the overall ceiling would not exceed 240 million dinars, said the source.

17 wounded in protest over Nahalin massacre

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians protesting the deaths of at least five Palestinians in a police raid clashed Friday with Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank, and more than 17 were wounded by gunfire, hospital officials said.

At least 11 refugee camps, towns or villages in the West Bank and occupied Gaza Strip had demonstrations or were shut down by general strikes called to protest the killings in the village of Nahalin near Bethlehem a day earlier.

The worst confrontation came in the Askar refugee camp near the northern town of Nablus, where doctors said 12 Palestinians were hospitalised with gunshot wounds.

The victims included a three-old girl, identified as Nesien Fayed, who was struck in the left side, and an 18-year-old boy in critical condition with a bullet in the chest, they said.

Hospitals meanwhile said that a Palestinian died of wounds from a clash last week.

Fourteen-year-old Maher Shalabi of Jenin died of bullet wounds in the head, a Rambam hospital spokesman said.

Police took unprecedented measures to prevent violence at the Al Aqsa Mosque during Friday prayers, a week after a protest

erupted at the mosque, three thousand policemen were mobilised in Jerusalem, barring young Palestinians from entering the city.

Police reported only about 7,000 Muslims attended Friday prayers at Al Aqsa, far fewer than the 30,000 predicted.

Apparently many were kept away by curfews on refugee camps, roadblocks outside Jerusalem and searches going into the mosque.

No major incidents were reported, but after the prayers Palestinians gathered to pray and chant against the killings Thursday in Nahalin.

At least five Palestinians were shot to death in the village during a pre-dawn, search-and-arrest raid by Israeli border police.

The head of Israel's paramilitary border said Friday his men made "mistakes" during the Nahalin raid.

"There is no doubt there were faults in Nahalin. They must be examined and conclusions drawn," border police commander Meshulam Amit said Reuters in a telephone interview.

The clash was one of the bloodiest in the 16-month Palestinian uprising.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) put the toll in Nahalin at 11 in a protest issued from its Geneva headquarters.

Witnesses said the troops came into the village at about 1:00 a.m., returned with reinforcements several hours later, surrounded the village and began to shoot.

The idea would cover internal security, trade and other issues relevant to the interim period.

— Israel negotiates with the PLO at the conference on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

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Chad says rebellion crushed

NDJAMENA (R) — Chad said Friday it had crushed a rebellion earlier this month involving Interior Minister Ibrahim Mahamat Ito, the country's army commander and a presidential adviser.

The plot was uncovered on the night of April 1, an official communiqué said, but forces loyal to President Hissene Habre in the Central African country had "put an end to this senseless adventure and annihilated the band of traitors."

It said Ito, army commander Hassan Djamous, presidential security adviser Idris Deby and an unspecified number of others "deserted the ranks of loyal Chadian forces and entered into open rebellion against the institutions of the republic."

Ito was arrested in the capital N'djamena the same night, the communiqué said, but it did not say what happened to Deby and Djamous. Deby was previously army commander-in-chief.

Reports circulating in the capital said the two had fled east towards Sudan, where Chadian rebel groups continue to operate.

The communiqué said the plotters were "consumed by ambition and manipulated by Chad's enemies and thought they could defeat the authority of the state."

Habre urged the Chadian people to "redouble their efforts to



Hissene Habre
unmask and destroy forever these demons of subversion, division and chaos."

Ito was among Chad's most prominent ministers and served on occasion as a stand-in for Habre at official functions.

Last November he headed a delegation which negotiated a peace pact with one of Chad's principal opposition leaders, Acheikh Ibn Oumar, who has since joined the government as foreign minister.

Habre was brought many former opponents into his cabinet in an effort to mend the damage done by 20 years of civil war.

Last October, Chad restored diplomatic links with Libya, which had supported rebel forces against Habre during several years of fighting between the two countries.

In Paris, diplomatic sources said they had heard from N'djamena that Djamous had been arrested Friday. The reports could not be confirmed.

Afghan rebels ambush trucks

KABUL (R) — Afghan rebels Friday ambushed a convoy of fuel and food trucks arriving from the Soviet Union, setting a number on fire, drivers said.

But despite heavy fighting at least 90 trucks got through the rebel blockade along the Salang Highway, bringing precious supplies to Kabul.

Helicopter gunships flew low over the convoy and armoured cars and tanks fired at guerrilla positions in a bid to clear the vital highway. Columns of smoke mushroomed in the sky about 20 kilometres from Kabul.

Drivers told Reuters they had seen groups of soldiers defecting to the rebels who ambush convoys from positions along the mountainous territory through which the highway runs north to the Soviet border.

Rebels also fired on the convoy from positions in the snow-capped mountains around Kabul, drawing fire from government tanks dug in along the route.

It was not clear how many of the several hundred trucks had been destroyed.

Fighting was still going on four hours after the first trucks arrived in the capital, making it impossible for the rest to get there Friday as the helicopter gunships do not escort them after dark.

The convoy was the first to arrive since the rebels blocked the vital route more than a week ago.

The last arrived April 6 when an explosion ripped through an oil depot in Kabul, destroying 12 of the 70 fuel trucks which had completed that journey.

The army has been fighting for several days to reopen the Salang which had been cut off at two points by the guerrillas, determined to starve Kabul into surrender now that President Najibullah has no Soviet troops to back up his army. Moscow's troop withdrawal was completed Feb. 15.

The other highway running south to the besieged city of Jalalabad has been closed for several weeks.

With the country's two main roads supplying the capital closed, a constant Soviet airlift of food and military equipment has enabled the government of Najibullah to fight a loose alliance of rebel organisations based in Pakistan.

But the airlift brings in less than half the 600 tonnes of flour Kabul needs every day and a shortage of essential supplies has sent prices soaring.

There is also a serious fuel shortage in the capital with almost all petrol stations idle and few cars running in the bumpy streets of the city.



Demonstrators hang a Palestinian flag near a mosque in occupied Jerusalem during a funeral march Monday for a Palestinian slain by a Jewish gunman near the Holy City's Jaffa Gate.

Husseini welcomes elections but not under occupation

CAIRO (R) — Leading Palestinian activist Faisal Al Husseini has said he is not against elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but rejected holding them while the territories were under Israeli occupation.

"From my point of view and the Palestinians as well, elections is one of the high levels of democracy. I don't believe that there is freedom and democracy under the Israeli occupation," Husseini told reporters Thursday.

"So we are not against elections, but we can't accept them under occupation." Husseini, who lives in the West Bank, told a Foreign Press Association meeting.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who refuses to talk to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), last week offered Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza the chance to negotiate a peace settlement by staging "free and democratic" elections.

The poll would be conditional on the end of the uprising in the occupied territories.

Husseini said Israel would have to withdraw from the territories before Palestinians could consider the proposal, echoing remarks by a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

"The PLO is fully for free and democratic elections... but you can't have democracy without freedom," Bassam Abu Sherif told reporters Thursday.



Faisal Husseini

Shamir 'buying time'

Husseini, who was freed last January after 18 months in an Israeli jail, accused Shamir of trying to buy time with his election proposal which has been cautiously backed by the United States.

"We believe that he is trying to win more time... the election time is a sheer trick and no one will accept it," Husseini said.

He said Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza had chosen the PLO as their sole representatives.

He said even if they went ahead with the elections and West Bank Palestinians were elected, Shamir would still have to talk to the PLO.

"Mr. Shamir knows better than anyone else that in any elections, the PLO will be there," Husseini said.

He said there were no guarantees that after the elections, held under international supervision, Israeli troops would not arrest or detain Palestinians.

Husseini predicted that Shamir would not remain in office by the end of 1990.

"The intifada will go on. I don't believe that Mr. Shamir will remain in power by the end of 1990. He will have to talk to the PLO or resign."

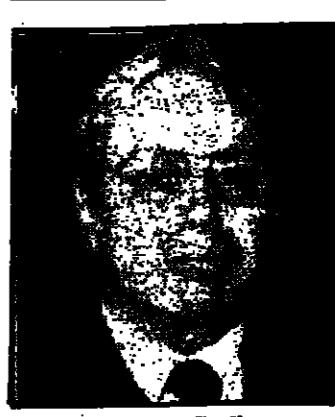
Husseini said he favoured an international conference on the Middle East which he hoped would lead to Israeli withdrawal from the occupied lands and the formation of an independent Palestinian state.

Shamir, who rejects the idea of land for peace, Thursday told American newspaper editors in Washington that Israel could not survive if it withdrew from its occupied territories.

"The truth is if we withdraw there will be a PLO state on the outskirts of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and war," Shamir said.

The PLO has a different opinion.

"The two-state solution is the solution that will bring lasting peace, the solution that will safeguard and safeguard the safety and future of both Israelis and Palestinians," Abu Sherif said.



Javier Perez de Cuellar

Arafat, U.N. chief may meet in Europe

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— The Palestine observer here has been given the U.N. secretary general's schedule for a planned visit to Europe in case Palestine President and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat wants to see him, a U.N. spokesman said.

Spokesman Francois Giuliani told reporters Zehdi Labib Terzi, the U.N. observer, had discussed the matter with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"Should Mr. Arafat wish to see the secretary general then presumably they will try (to meet)," Giuliani said.

Perez de Cuellar will be in Luxembourg April 17-19, Geneva until April 25, and then to Warsaw, Krakow and Vienna. He returns to New York April 29.

Arafat last met the secretary general in Geneva in December when the U.N. General Assembly met there to discuss the Palestine question. Arafat made a major address that led to the opening of contacts between the PLO and the United States.

At the General Assembly's direction, the secretary general has been trying to arrange an international conference on the Middle East. He was rebuffed again by Israel this week in a brief meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Vienna talks postponed

A meeting planned for Friday in Vienna between Arafat and Israeli opposition parliamentarians has been postponed, a PLO official said Thursday.

The meeting, arranged with Austrian government help, had been put off indefinitely "because of questions of agenda and technical reasons," a spokesman for the Vienna office for the PLO said.

Neither PLO nor Austrian officials would name the Israelis due to have taken part.

U.S. author makes new 'revelation' about Khomeini and Rushdie affair

WASHINGTON (AP) — A leading writer on Islamic military said Thursday that the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's order to kill Salman Rushdie had nothing to do with revision over the contents of his book, "The Satanic Verses."

Robin Wright said that Khomeini, seizing upon the growing fury among Sunnis and Shi'ite Muslims over the book, issued the edict against Rushdie in a bid to gain the leadership of the entire Islamic World.

Wright, author "Sacred Rage: The Wrath of Militant Islam," and the upcoming "In the Name of God: Khomeini's Revolutionary Decade," said Khomeini also was using the issue to divert attention from domestic problems, just as he created the U.S. hostage crisis in 1979 to mobilise public support for his troubled regime.

But "I suspect that Khomeini is in a minority" among Iranian clerics and political leaders on the

issue of Rushdie, she said, noting the assassination order "has erased most of the diplomatic gains made by Iran since the end of the war with Iraq." She predicted history will view the episode as "a tragic spasm."

Wright, a national security reporter for the Los Angeles Times, was among participants in a seminar on the Rushdie affair at the annual convention of the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

She said Thursday she did not doubt Khomeini was "genuinely outraged by the comic and almost pornographic approach to Islam" in the book.

But she noted the assassination order, coupled with a \$5.2-million bounty offer, was not issued until mid-February, five months after publication.

Rushdie, born in India of Muslim parents, and his American wife, author Mary Wiggins, went into hiding, presumably in England, shortly after Khomeini's

Bush: S. Arabia does not have nuke, chemical weapons

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush said Thursday that Saudi Arabia does not possess nuclear, chemical or biological warheads for intermediate-range ballistic missiles purchased from China.

If Bush had found otherwise, the administration would have been barred from selling certain military products to Saudi Arabia.

In a formal presidential certification, Bush said Saudi Arabia have bought intermediate-range missiles from China but "there is no credible intelligence reporting indicating that Saudi Arabia possesses nuclear, chemical or biological weapons."

Moreover, he said, "we are not aware" of production facilities for chemical or biological agents or weapons. He said Saudi Arabia possesses "no significant nuclear facilities."

A law enacted by Congress requires the president to make a certification about Saudi Arabia's arsenal in order to continue military sales.

Bush said that both the Saudis and Chinese have informed the United States that the missiles purchased from Peking will not be equipped with nuclear warheads.

The Saudis also have pledged the missiles will not be armed with chemical warheads, Bush said.

"We remain concerned about the possible proliferation of these types of weapons in the Middle East and will continue to watch developments closely," Bush said. He promised to notify Congress of a "change in developments in Saudi Arabia."

NIF leaders described Monday's vote as a dirty political trick and announced their boycott of parliamentary sessions.

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's parliament, symbol of the country's fledgling Western-style democracy, went into a six-week recess this week on a stormy note.

The parliamentary move was the latest attempt by Mahdi's government to end the civil war in South Sudan, where Sharia is anathema to rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Southern Sudan politicians have urged parliament not to adopt any major legislation until elections are held to fill 40 vacant southern seats.

Polls have not been possible in the south because of the bush war waged since 1983 by the SPLA, fighting to end what it views as the domination by the north over the vast, undeveloped region.

Veteran politician Andrew Wieu of the Sudan African National Union (SANU) set up a

body last week grouping all other southern parties not represented in parliament to promote what he called southern interests.

Mahdi's Umma Party has 103 deputies in parliament, while the DUF, Umma's main coalition ally, has 63 and NIF 52. Small southern Sudanese parties, the Communist Party, Sudan National and independent occupy the 43 remaining seats.

Mohammad resigned despite pleas by Mahdi that he should remain to maintain a link between the government and the NIF, which has shunned invitation to join the present coalition on the grounds that it was not committed to Sharia.

Lawyer Farouq Al Berreri of Mahdi's Umma Party was elected as the new speaker before parliament recessed Thursday. Hamad Ali Tom of the DUF and southern Stans Wonga were voted deputy speakers.

Sudan's parliament recesses on stormy note

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Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein Thursday is being briefed on the functions of a workshop held in preparation for the establishment of the Jubilee School.

Queen Noor attends last session

Jubilee School workshop

AMMAN (J.T.) — A week long workshop on new trends in curriculum development and instructions in chemistry to prepare for the opening of the Jubilee School ended in Amman on Thursday with Her Majesty Queen Noor attending the closing session.

A total of 21 specialists, educationalists, and high calibre teachers from various educational institutions in Jordan took part in the workshop activities which were organised by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation in cooperation with the British Council and the Mofay House College of Education in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The queen heard a briefing by Mrs. Nawal Kamal the director of the Jubilee project on the objectives of the workshop and the nature of discussions by the con-

cerned educationists who she said came from schools and institutions run by the Ministry of Education, United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), Jordanian universities and the Armed Forces.

The workshops are bound to prepare teachers and supervisors for the Jubilee School and offer the chance for an exchange of ideas and expertise, Mrs. Kamal noted. Dr. Douglas Buccan presented to the Queen a review of the workshops programmes which deal with science teaching methods, tests for students, the employment of audio visual aids and computers in teaching and the curricula to be adopted.

The participants in the workshop discussed and learnt about new directives in matters related to problem-solving skills that included sorting information, interpreting graphs, drawing up conclusions, explaining, predicting and generalising.

The Jubilee School will be a model secondary school for gifted students and is being established by the NHF in honour of His Majesty King Hussein's deep commitment to education and in recognition of the greater strides made under his leadership.

Two similar workshops were held in the summer of 1988, also in preparation for the Jubilee School which will be built near Amman. The projected JD 4 million school is expected to be ready before the 1990-1991 school year.

The participants in the workshop discussed and learnt about

the revised law is approved the new Lower House of Parliament will have only 71 seats.

Palestinians living in the West Bank were issued with Jordanian passports valid for only two years after the separation.

These are merely travel documents and do not entitle holders of Jordanian citizenship and the right to vote in Jordanian elections.

They had previously held the ordinary five-year Jordanian passports as they were deemed Jordanian citizens living under Israeli occupation.

Most Palestinians living in refugee camps inside Jordan have Jordanian citizenship. Under the

new 1986 law, that was never used for an election, gave the East Bank 71 seats, the West Bank 60 and allocated 11 seats for Palestinians living in refugee camps inside Jordan.

The revised law is now ready for endorsement by the cabinet," the official told Reuters on condition that his name was withheld.

The amendments follow His Majesty King Hussein's announcement on July 31 that Jordan had severed legal and administrative links with the West Bank.

The move boosted the role of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Jordan's 1960 election law provided for 30 seats each for the East and West Bank.

A 1986 law, that was never used for an election, gave the East Bank 71 seats, the West Bank 60 and allocated 11 seats for

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Jordan Times

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Stop Shamir

THE choice of the Israeli occupying forces for the pre-dawn prayer time during the holy month of Ramadan to conduct its search and operation against fasting Muslims in the village of Nahalin, killing and injuring in the process scores of worshipers Thursday, is an affront to Islam, a grave sacrilegious act against Muslims everywhere and an outrageous desecration against the holy month of Ramadan. What adds insult to injury is the fact that this latest massacre against Palestinians in the mouth of Ramadan came on the heels of Israel's delirium over the accidental throwing of stones on the visitors of the Wailing Wall last Friday. Clearly this attack on Nahalin and similar acts against Palestinians performing their religious duties make a mockery of Israel's declared concern for the sanctity of holy places whether Muslim, Christian or Jew.

And that is not all. Shamir's escalation of violence against the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip comes in the wake of his official talks with U.S. President George Bush and his senior aides including Secretary of State James Baker. If this is not a vulgar and arrogant rebuff and insult to the U.S. administration, which has counselled Shamir for restraint and positive initiatives in order to create the favourable climate for peace in the Middle East one does not know what is. By opting to do exactly the opposite of what President Bush and Secretary Baker have advised, Shamir is telling the White House and even the whole American nation that Israel and Israel alone calls all the shots in the Middle East. Thus Shamir was not contented with flatly refusing every reasonable advice and every piece of friendly persuasion offered to him during his visit to Washington on how to give the peace process in the Middle East a chance, but deliberately chose to match his words with acts to give Washington a hard lesson on which party calls all the shots in the Middle East.

The White House is accordingly called upon to draw the necessary conclusions from Shamir's crass policies. Washington is dutybound to stand up to Shamir and his clique to prove to them that the U.S. is no banana republic as far as Israel is concerned.

Likewise the Islamic world is also called upon to take notice of Israel's atrocities against Islam in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to adopt appropriate measures to put an end to Israel's lawlessness by effective and persuasive means.

Finally, it behoves the whole international community to act forcefully and speedily to stop the Israeli fanatics from turning the Arab-Israeli conflict into a religious one. The international community can do so by matching its condemnation of the Nahalin massacre with actions that Shamir can feel and understand.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday tackled the resolutions of the Arab Cooperation Council's prime ministers meetings in Baghdad which it said achieved good progress towards greater integration among the four council countries. The most important of these resolutions is perhaps the decision to embark on such matters as organising the work of the ACC's headquarters and general secretariat which would be in charge of handling the ACC's financial, organisational and administrative affairs, said the paper. There is no doubt that the other resolutions, like coordination on security affairs, and the facilities to be given to manpower from ACC countries in residence and employment as well as judicial matters between the four countries are of paramount importance at this stage, the paper added. The outcome of the first higher meeting represented by the prime ministers of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and North Yemen, the paper noted, is a source of hope and optimism and is being followed with great interest by the Arab masses in the Arab World at large. The four prime ministers, the paper concluded have thus laid the groundwork for their future action and for further steps to be taken on the road towards unity.

Al Dastour's editorial Friday tackled the new massacre committed by the Israeli forces in the occupied Arab lands. Referring to the Nahalin massacre in which six innocent people were slaughtered many more injured, the paper said that the Zionist criminals have returned to the same village after their first massacre there 25 years ago to commit a similar crime equally ugly. The paper said that the crime proves that the Israelis have never ceased to express their hatred towards the Arab people of Palestine and never given up their dreams of maintaining their occupation of Palestinian territory and their lust for bloodshed. The new crime, the paper added proves to the world that the Zionists lust for blood is not quenched yet and that the world should watch other massacres equally horrific as long as the occupation lasts. The new massacre, the paper noted coincided with the Bush administration announcement that it will pursue effort to bring peace to Palestine. Therefore, the paper added, the United States is now expected to take steps not only to condemn such actions but put an end to Israel's crimes.

Sawt Al Shaab daily commented on the Nahalin massacre by saying that it proves to the whole world that Israel was going ahead with all its power and all its criminal methods to perpetuate its occupation of the Arab land. The paper said that the Israelis hope with such atrocities to put an end to the Palestinian intifada and end the Arab people's struggle for freedom. Such actions, the paper noted, should prompt the world community now to expose the Zionists and their actions and isolate Israel from the rest of the human community. This crime should end all pretenses under which the United States had been trying to cover up for Israel's actions and condone its atrocities, the paper added. It said the new massacre should indeed end all Washington's economic, political and military aid to the Jewish state.

Sri Lankan president loses patience

By Feizal Samath
Reuter

COLOMBO — Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa is losing patience with peaceful efforts to end Tamil and Sinhalese guerrilla campaigns and might one day resort to a military solution, politicians and political analysts say.

After being elected last December, Premadasa made three unsuccessful appeals to the rebels to give up their armed campaigns in return for amnesty and rehabilitation.

On Wednesday a week-long unilateral ceasefire by security forces took effect on Premadasa's orders in what appears to be his final attempt to be conciliatory.

Hector Abhayawardene, a veteran political commentator,

said this was likely to be Premadasa's last peace call to the rebels.

"He can't go on and on with the peace call. And he seems to be gearing for a big military offensive, judging by reports of new laws being drafted to deal with rebels," he said.

Tamil guerrillas are fighting for a separate state in the north and east while the leftist People's Liberation Front, known by its Sinhalese initials JVP, is trying to overthrow the government from southern strongholds.

Officials said more than 12,000 people have been killed in the past six years in the two rebellions.

The main Tamil rebel group has rejected the ceasefire, saying it would surrender only after the

withdrawal of all the 45,000 Indian troops who are in Sri Lanka to enforce a pact aimed at ending the Tamil campaign.

"The ceasefire is an exercise in futility, because we do not propose to hand over our weapons to anybody," the group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, said Tuesday.

The Tigers' statement coincided with an announcement by an Indian government spokesman in New Delhi that more troops would be withdrawn from Sri Lanka in view of the favourable situation.

About 5,000 troops have been withdrawn at Premadasa's request since last December.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne told parliament two weeks ago that more Indian

troops would go back in batches in June and December.

Malinda Wijesekera, member of parliament of the opposition Freedom Party, said the ceasefire would be given an amnesty and rehabilitated.

"It is Premadasa's final fling with peace before he launches his military option," Wijesekera, a JVP member said.

He said the government's approach to the problem was contradictory. "You offer peace but also prepare drastic laws to fight them. How can rebels trust the government if these tactics are used?" he asked.

"There must be a national dialogue, a national consensus first. The government should sit down and discuss with all groups their problems before announcing one-way ceasefires and amnesties,"

Wijesekera said.

The government said that rebels who surrender during the April 12 to 19 ceasefire would be given an amnesty and rehabilitated.

The rebels would be protected, fed, clothed and trained for employment once they give themselves up at 228 "reception" centres set up across the island, a former soldier said.

Officials said the government was preparing amendments to the Prevention of Terrorism Act, aimed at dealing firmly with southern rebels.

They said the new laws include the death penalty for people who have killed any person. At present the death penalty under the act applies only to action against

specified persons such as the president and government members.

The proposals also extend to 18 months from three months the detention of suspects without a trial. Premadasa last week offered parliamentary seats, without holding an election, for rebels who stopped their campaign.

The president, who says he is sincere in his offer, has often said a political solution was the only way out of the present conflict.

"He (Premadasa) promised to solve the problems soon as he became president. But after four months nothing has been solved," the professor, who declined to be named, said.

founded.

An obstacle to dialogue is that the UDF was effectively banned by the government in February 1988, and many of its members have either been banned or detained.

Pretoria has periodically sent in police reinforcements in a bid to quell the violence, but so far their presence has done little to halt the killings.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions, South Africa's biggest trade union group which is affiliated to the UDF, last month produced a dossier of affidavits by residents accusing police of supporting Inkatha in the fighting.

Police have consistently denied allegations that they are taking sides in the fighting.

Schools, homes deserted in South Africa's Natal war

By Rich Mkhondo
Reuter

SHONGWENI, South Africa — When Charles Memorial Primary School opened this year, only five pupils answered "present" at the morning roll-call.

Gradually the number grew to 40. But last week a band of youths brandishing automatic rifles stormed into the school, scattering staff and pupils.

Now teachers at Charles Memorial and two other schools in this black Natal township wait in vain every day for a single pupil.

Thousands of children have fled the community and Shongweni is turning into a ghost town because of a brutal power struggle between supporters of the leftist United Democratic Front

(UDF) and Inkatha, a conservative Zulu organisation.

UDF and Inkatha both oppose white minority rule, but are at loggerheads over the best strategy to fight apartheid.

The UDF is sympathetic to the outlawed African National Congress (ANC), which is waging a guerrilla war against white rule.

Inkatha takes a conservative approach, preferring to fight apartheid from within Pretoria's official policy of establishing tribal homelands.

Clashes between the two groups have killed more than 1,000 people over the past two years in the Zulu heartland of Natal province.

Shongweni is the hardest hit of the many settlements around Natal ravaged by the fighting. Shops are closed, families have

abandoned their homes and fled to the bush, local government cannot operate and public transport has ground to a halt.

Fewer than 50 of Shongweni's estimated 5,000 families have dared to remain in the area while others have trekked to townships where the warfare has subsided.

Some of those who remain sleep in the bush at night for fear of being attacked.

"I have never seen anything like this before, the fabric of community life has been destroyed. We live like wild animals," Mkhize said.

Violence between Inkatha and the UDF erupted in 1984 and the battles escalated in the ensuing years.

Jailed black nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, imprisoned in 1964 for plotting to overthrow

white rule, has appealed for peace.

"In my entire political career few things have distressed me as to see our people killing one another as is now happening," Mandela said in a letter to Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

"As you know, the entire fabric of community life in some of the affected areas has been seriously disrupted, leaving behind a legacy of hatred and bitterness which may haunt us for years to come. It is the matter which requires the urgent attention of all the people in this country," Mandela wrote.

The rival groups in Natal have established their territorial borders, village by village and street by street.

Efforts by a variety of organisations to bring the warring parties together to find a settlement have

North Korea faces growing isolation

By Mark O'Neill
Reuter

PYONGYANG — North Korea faces growing isolation because of its extremist image, its failure to repay foreign debts and a successful diplomatic offensive by the boomng South.

Sweden and Austria have withdrawn their diplomats from Pyongyang, leaving a Finnish commercial secretary as the sole West European diplomat permanently in North Korea.

Pyongyang angrily downgraded relations with Hungary to charge d'affaires level after Budapest established diplomatic ties with Seoul in February.

The Soviet Union followed Yugoslavia in opening a trade office in Seoul earlier this month and will be followed by Poland and Bulgaria in the first half of this year.

"Asian diplomacy now is all about money," a diplomat in Pyongyang said. "The South has capital and technology to export, the North does not. It is losing out."

Another reason for the isolation is the bombing of a Korean air lines plane in November 1987 over Burma which Seoul blames on the North. One of the bombers confessed on national television in South Korea that she was a North Korean agent.

Most countries believed the South. Fewer delegations came here after that," a second diplomat said.

North Korean officials disclaim responsibility for the bombing, calling the South's case "a fabrication" and saying those accused of carrying it out were not from the North.

"Time will prove who is right and who is wrong," said Kang Il, a member of the Korean Society for Relations with Foreign Countries, in an interview.

"History tells us that those who are in a dilemma carry out such a plot, like the burning of the Reichstag in 1936," he said, referring to the incident when the Nazis set fire to the German parliament and blamed it on the Communist Party.

"It is a pity some Socialist countries have relations with the South, bartering class principles for a few dollars. We hope they will abide by their principles. We will not be so foolish as to cut relations with them," he said.

The country's two strongest allies are the Soviet Union and China, whose military assistance in the Korean war threw back the U.N. forces to the 38th parallel and saved the North.

Both countries also provided enormous financial assistance in the post-war reconstruction period. They have large embassies in the centre of Pyongyang, while nearly all the others have been moved to diplomatic quarter in the south of the city.

"The Soviet Union and China do not mind about the Kim Il Sung personality cult, which they regard as an internal affair," said

COCOM, a committee regulating exports to Communist countries.

Since last September, it has held three rounds of talks in Peking with the United States, at the level of political counsellor.

A spokesman at the U.S. embassy in Peking said that, during the talks, both sides repeated their positions. "There was not a lot of give and take. We would like to improve relations."

Commercially, North Korea has isolated itself by defaulting on its foreign debt, making it ineligible for new credit from the West.

U.S. firms are not allowed to do trade or investment with North Korea, except of a humanitarian nature, and North Korea has one of the lowest ratings in access to goods controlled by

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The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
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Take away

Features



Traditionally, female characters in kathakali are played by males but there has been recent change in this respect.

The colourful classical Indian dance-drama of kathakali is enjoying a revival. **Anand Shawkar** looks behind the scenes for an insight into the traditional splendour of this noble art.

AS DUSK gently descends on the village, the stillness is shattered by a deafening noise from the temple courtyard: The rhythmic beat of drums announces that a kathakali performance is being held here tonight.

This is Kerala, kathakali country. In this southwestern state of India, kathakali is a unique art form as symbolic of the palm-fringed land as its serene backwaters, mountains and paddy fields.

The performance tonight is Kalyanasaanghantikam, one of the more exciting kathakali pieces, taken from an episode in the Indian epic, The Mahabharata. It tells essentially of the quest for a rare flower of the same name by Bhima, a valorous, strong, yet foolhardy prince.

His half-brother Hanuman, the monkey god, cannot bear the sight of Bhima's arrogance as he stomps through the forest, destroying everything in his way and sending the beasts scurrying for cover.

To teach him a lesson in humility, Hanuman disguises himself as a decrepit old monkey and obstructs Bhima's path. In a test of wills and strength, Bhima is humbled. Realising he is up against someone vastly superior, he relents and Hanuman reveals himself. Bhima

Kathakali — once seen, never forgotten

heighten the atmosphere and the spectator is swiftly transported to a beautiful theatre of the imagination. The whole spectacle is a fascinating experience; once seen, never forgotten.

Complex art form

Kathakali is a complex art form. First-time spectators often complain that its least understandable aspect is the gesture or mudra. The kathakali actor never speaks; all words and emotions are conveyed through hand gestures. This is the language of the actor. From tragedy to happiness, the hands convey the mood and the meaning of the scene.

A single mudra can be used to describe as many as 73 different things, but the connoisseur — who often also revels in the tag "Kathakali maniac" — can differentiate between them. And when you consider that a kathakali actor has to learn about 600 mudras, the extent of his training becomes apparent.

The mudras and other movements of the body depend on the story; the music, vocal and instrumental accompaniments add to the mood. Rendered in south Indian classical (Carnatic) music, the raga or melody is chosen to suit the mood of the moment; it can range from a slow, drawn-out tune to denote tragedy to a fast-paced, hectic rhythm to convey excitement.

There are two drummers: one plays the chenda, a vertical drum played with sticks; the

other plays the madhalam, a horizontal drum played with the fingers and the palm. The main singer beats a gong and his accompanist sings uses a pair of small cymbals.

Kathakali characters rely heavily on stylised makeup and costumes to establish their position in the drama, much the same as black and white denote evil and good in entertainment as diverse as the English pantomime and the classic Hollywood cowboy movie. Here green makeup is used to portray divine, heroic and royal characters, such as Bhima. Arrogant or wicked types are given sharp, knife-like features. Black is reserved for demons. A black beard is used for forest tribesmen and wild hunters. A red beard signifies a vicious evil character. White beards are reserved for characters held in the highest esteem, particularly Hanuman. Gentle and saintly figures use shiny, yellow and pink to reflect their beauty and radiance. Many of these are female characters, traditionally played by men, although women are gradually finding their way on stage in these roles.

Besides these characters representing human vices and virtues there are 18 non-human characters drawn from Hindu mythology. Costumes are colourful and extravagant. The huge skirt-like dress is made up of several yards of cloth wound around the waist. This billowing dress may seem restrictive, but the space allows for easier leg movements, besides lending a

strikingly visual grandeur to the character.

Makeup and costume take about four hours to don, during which time the actor works himself into a trance-like state, "getting under the skin" of the character he is about to portray.

The entire body, from the limbs to the smallest facial muscle, is employed to convey an emotion and the versatility of the actor is judged by the way he uses them. The discerning viewer attaches great importance to the manner in which a character is handled by the artist; he keeps a watchful eye on the subtle shades of histrionics that can differentiate between a good performance and a bad one.

Some people have likened kathakali to a pantomime, a ballet and an opera; kathakali is all yet none of these.

Traditional Kerala rituals, social customs and religious influences have helped shape it over hundreds of years into its present form. In the 16th century, the ruler of the northern Kerala province of Calicut wrote the Krishnanaatam, a style of dance-drama that proved so popular that the king of Kottarakkara (southern Kerala) requested the loan of the troupe; the request was turned down and in his rage the snubbed king composed the Krishnanaatam to rival the Krishnanaatam. From these two different dance-drama emerged kathakali.

Kathakali was popular in the 17th and subsequent centuries chiefly because it was rendered

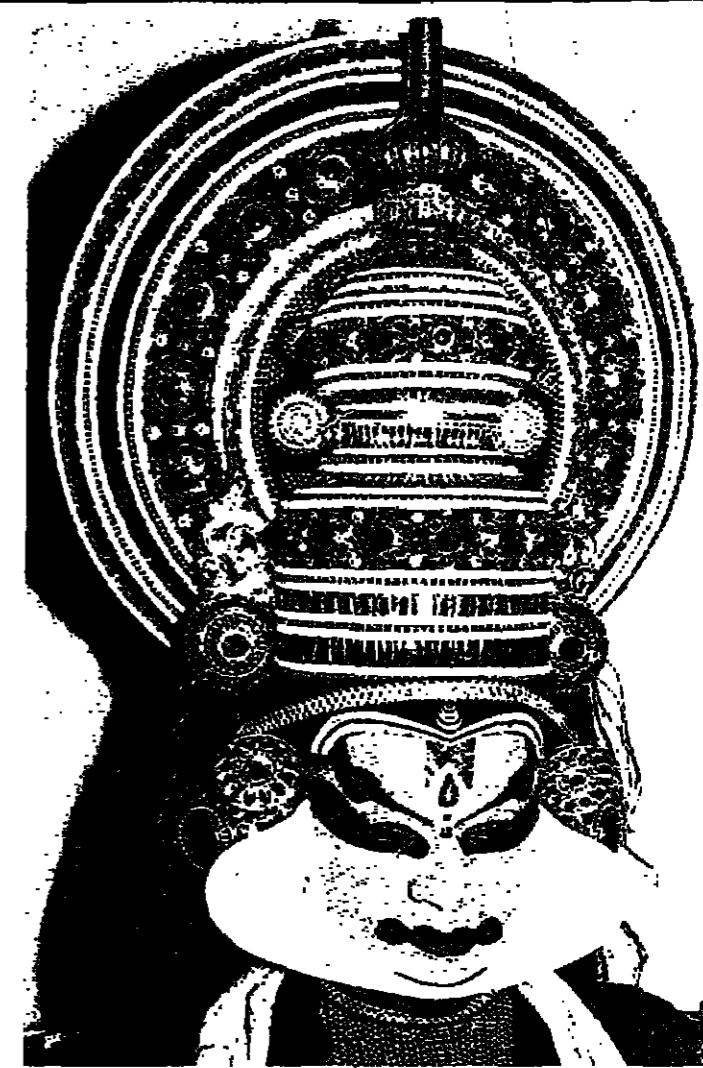
in a language that the people could understand. Until then Sanskrit was the main language of art, but the Kottarakkara ruler's work changed all that. He blended Sanskrit and Malayalam, the language of the people of Kerala, and encouraged the royal troupe to perform in little villages and homes.

Kathakali, which had its origins in raamanaatam and Krishnanaatam, developed quickly thanks to the competition between the two rulers to stage the best show. A valuable offshoot of the four kathakali plays by another king, the Rajah of Kottayam in northern Kerala, which are still regarded as some of the finest pieces in the art's vast literature. Basic training has traditionally been given in these four stories and if the actor can master these, he is considered versatile enough to go on stage.

By the early 1900s serious involvement with the art had dwindled, and it was left to a dedicated band of kathakali enthusiasts to resuscitate a dying tradition.

Chief among them was the eminent Malayalam poet Vallathol Narayana Menon. He started the Kerala Kalamandalam (academy of art) to train aspiring kathakali actors, singer, musicians and make-up artists and wrote extensively on the desperate need to restore a dying tradition to its former glory.

It was an experiment that paid off handsomely: kathakali today is known all over the world, and has found a wider



The green facial makeup indicates a divine, heroic or royal character, in this case Bhima, a valorous prince

same applies to the singers and the accompanying percussionists.

The last 50 years kathakali has witnessed a remarkable revival. The style of music, particularly, has improved with a shift towards classical music. Experimentation with new themes has notably resulted in plays based on international issues, ideologies and politics. Yet the modern stories have not managed to win the kind of popularity enjoyed by stories drawn from Indian mythology.

India's most developed dance-drama has at last won the critical acclaim it deserves. So where does it go from here? For one, the Keralite's penchant for improvisation and change could manifest itself in shifting styles of presentation. One aspect could be new stories in layman's Malayalam.

Although puritans would shudder at such a prospect, arguing that a move in this direction could strip the art of its traditional taste, there are others who believe it could result in much wider appeal.

It's doubtful if such stalwarts as Kalamandalam Krishnan Nair, the patriarch of them all, Ramankutty Nair or Kalamandalam Gopi would support this move, so further development of kathakali is left to a growing breed of promising youngsters. Judging by their dedication, versatility, and willingness to experiment with new trends, they will ensure the art's immortality. — Reprinted from Emirates magazine.



Initial makeup is done by the artists themselves usually hours before the performance begins

Green is colour of the joker in the energy deck

By Nicholas Moore
Reuter

LONDON — Time was, when OPEC was the wild card in the energy pack. Now, there's the environment.

Even before the Alaskan oil spill, a new uprush of concern was apparent over energy's role as a global pollutant. Big city smog, the Chernobyl nuclear accident and predictions of a possible "greenhouse" warming of the earth had already focused attention on the hazards of burning almost any fuel.

"We have years not decades to turn the situation around," says Lester Brown, president of the Worldwatch Institute, a U.S.-based environmentalist group.

Worldwatch's latest "State of the World" report says that, besides birth control, a priority is to curb energy use.

Industry analysts say that about

the only safe bet is that, like the "oil shocks" of the 1970s, the new problem with energy will cost money. Everything else is conjecture.

Nuclear fusion may be the eventual answer, hence the excitement when two scientists in the United States said they had got a fusion reaction to generate heat using simple chemistry.

Until now, nuclear fusion has been achieved only at huge cost and at temperatures near that of the sun or in atom bombs.

The dream is that fusion, which is less dirty than the fission process in existing reactors and uses seawater as a fuel, could one day generate limitless cheap electricity.

But the fusion age, according to sources as diverse as the U.S. nuclear industry and the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), may still be at least 20 years away.

Just how the green factor will affect the energy business in the meantime is anybody's guess.

The Valdez spillage last month, for instance, may make it easier for ecologists to stop oil drilling in other virgin areas like the Arctic national wildlife refuge (also in Alaska), said Charles Ebinger, analyst at Washington's International Resources Group.

But cheap oil in the 1980s has removed the incentive and producers have lately kept the price down to get the West back on petroleum.

Worldwatch would have summer governments counter that tactic by imposing a "carbon tax" on all fossil fuel and European Green parties now also call for higher energy taxes.

"We have to stop what can best be called a folly of the roads and try to develop a policy that favours transport by more economic means," said French Greens leader Antoine Waechter.

Natural gas, plentiful but trans-

portable by sea only in liquefied form, may in future be favoured over oil and coal.

"There is no doubt that natural gas is the 'greenest' of the hydro-carbon fuels," says a study by London brokerage Kleinwort Benson. Gas yields 40 per cent less carbon dioxide than coal.

Gas accounts for only about 20 per cent of world energy consumption, compared with oil at 40 per cent and coal at 30 per cent. Only one-tenth of U.S. electricity is generated by gas.

The pace of ecology-led energy reform is quickening.

Britain offers tax breaks on unleaded petrol. The European Community (EC) wants tough U.S.-style pollution standards for cars even though they will add five to 10 per cent to costs.

Tighter regulations on petrol volatility, a cause of pollution, are being introduced in the United States while a new plan to reduce smog in California calls for sharp cuts in industrial emissions, for car pooling and staggered work hours.

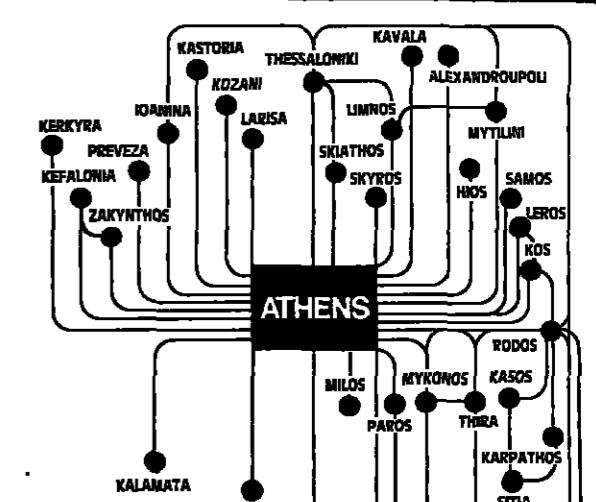
"Refiners will face unprecedented challenges arising out of environmental concerns," the chairman of AMOCO, Richard Morrow, told a U.S. oil industry gathering in San Francisco recently.

Challenges also face power utilities which burn coal. The British central electricity generating board is looking at a programme costing as much as \$2 billion to fit equipment to extract sulphur gas from emissions at its coal power stations to comply with EC measures against acid rain.

There is also the possibility that climatic change itself might affect energy demand, although scientists differ on how much hotter it might get.

Mild northern winters mean less fuel for heating. But hot summers call for air conditioning and droughts might mean more irrigation pumps.

OLYMPIC'S WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS



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AMMAN - ATHENS		
Friday	20:15	22:45
Sunday	20:15	22:45
ATHENS - AMMAN		
Friday	23:30	02:10
Sunday	23:30	02:10

A dead California gray whale washed ashore on Latouche Island as a result of the oil-spilled waters of Prince William Sound

U.S. excludes West Bank from Israel trade privileges

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States announced Thursday that it would require goods from the Israeli-occupied West Bank to be labelled to show their origin so they would not be given the trade preferences accorded Israel-made goods.

Officials at the U.S. trade representative's office said the decision was taken on the advice of the State Department and was in line with American policy of not recognising Israel's claim of "sovereignty" over the occupied territories.

U.S. officials said the move was more a political step than a trade action because there was probably little if any trade from the West Bank through Israel to the United States.

But they said it would restate U.S. policy that Israel should end its occupation of the territories and not consider the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as part of Israel.

The action followed a complaint by the Arab-American

Anti-Discrimination Council that Israel should be denied trade benefits under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) because it violated the rights of West Bank workers.

Under GSP, developing nations are given trade preferences as a way to spur economic growth, but the preferences are denied when they violate human or worker rights or expropriate property without compensation.

Trade observers said the ruling could discourage Israel's economic development of the West Bank, fought by the United States, but if there were many West Bank exports in the past, the new ban could in effect widen Israel's GSP export quota.

A country is given a certain level of GSP exports. Israel last year exported \$494 million in goods that were covered under GSP duty-free provisions.

World Bank leans to interest cuts

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank, picked by the United States to play a key role in easing the cash drain on the Third World, favours cutting the interest burden of nations such as Mexico rather than their debt stock, officials say.

Although an initiative by U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady envisages cuts in both debt and debt service, experts at the bank have tentatively concluded that capping the interest on outstanding bank loans would provide more substantial relief than reducing the amount of the debt.

"That is the approach that makes most sense," said one monetary official, who asked not to be identified. "The other techniques are not even worth discussing."

U.S. officials estimate their plan could reduce the \$340 billion that troubled debtors owe to commercial banks, and the associated interest payments, by an average of 20 per cent over three years.

In the case of Mexico, which has about \$60 billion in medium- and long-term bank debt, a cut in loan principal of that magnitude would reduce annual interest payments by about \$1.2 billion, assuming interest rates are 10 per cent a year.

But the same savings could be achieved without writing down the value of the loan by reducing the interest rate to eight per cent. Lowering it to, say, six per cent would save Mexico \$2.4 billion.

Furthermore, fixing interest at a lower rate would also insulate Mexico from the possibility of a further climb in the cost of money, officials and academic experts said.

The rise in U.S. interest rates in the past year has cost the 17 biggest debtors alone an extra \$10 billion, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates.

If the whole purpose of this programme is to reduce net resource transfer of a debt-distressed country, but no attempt is made to ensure that the cash-flow benefit of debt reduction is soon not dissipated by a rise in interest rates, then it will be an exercise in futility," Shafiqul Islam, a fellow at the Council for Foreign Relations, told Congress last week.

Indeed, Mexico has told the U.S. Treasury that its preferred option in upcoming bank negotiations would be to swap its current loans for new, par-value bonds paying below-market rates of interest, monetary officials said.

It proposed backing repayment of the new bonds with U.S. Treasury securities and support-

Facing 'economic emergency' Argentines give up family budget as hyper-inflation spreads chaos

BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — With prices climbing by the hour, Argentine housewives have given up planning the family budget.

They simply take to the streets with their money and hope for the best.

"I go to the grocer's with my shopping list but I don't know what I'll come back with. I don't even know if the money I carry will be enough," Julia Salomone said.

Prices in Argentina have rocketed in the last 10 days since Economy Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese took charge with the intention of controlling runaway double-digit monthly inflation.

The cost of living increased 17 per cent in March and could top 30 per cent in April, economists say.

"We are now in a state of hyper-inflation. People do not know on what to base prices. It's uncontrollable," economist Rodolfo Rossi of the right-wing Union of Democratic Centre said.

Argentines, already suffering from periodic power cuts and inefficient public services, now face two more challenges — to find the goods they need and the money to buy them.

Unpredictability

Market conditions have become so unpredictable that most shopkeepers will no longer accept credit cards, the traditional way to beat inflation in Argentina.

Some products have vanished from shops because manufacturers and wholesalers are withholding deliveries until they can set

prices that will at least cover the cost of buying new supplies.

Supermarkets have no biscuits, saying manufacturers will not deliver, and car spare parts businesses have simply closed.

The prices of essential food-stuffs, clothing and household rule have more than doubled in the past 30 days and most goods have been marked up every day since Pugliese replaced technocrat Juan Sourrouille, retailers said.

Total anarchy' It is outrageous'

"This is total anarchy... the prices have gone through the roof," 40-year-old Cristina Pomeraniec said.

A pair of jeans that could have been bought Tuesday for 1,400 austral (\$29 at the free market exchange rate) fetched 2,500 austral (\$50) Thursday.

"A kilogramme of Shetland wool cost 250 austral (\$5) last week and today it is 590 austral (\$11.80). It is outrageous," 18-year-old Mariana Perez told Reuters.

Flour prices have risen more than 200 per cent in a month and sugar prices have almost trebled since February.

The only rule is there is no rule at all'

"Argentines know the only rule is there is no rule at all," shopkeeper Jorge Fingeret said.

An eloquent example of the difficulties facing housewives took place in a Buenos Aires grocery. A woman who asked for

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Official explains tomato supplies, prices

AMMAN (J.T.) — The price of tomatoes in the local markets is expected to decline by the end of this month, according to Ministry of Agriculture's Secretary-General Salem Al Lawzi. He said in a statement published by Al Dustour daily Friday that the current shortage of tomatoes in the markets was due largely to the waves of frost in the past winter which damaged vast areas of farmlands. At present, he noted, tomatoes arriving at the markets come from 20,000 dunums of land near Karak, South Shueh and other southern regions. Lawzi said that since the beginning of Ramadan there has been a noticeable increase in the demand for tomatoes which added to the problem. Lawzi also noted that Jordan's exports of tomatoes have dropped from 550 tonnes a day to 180 tonnes as a result of the poor production but exports will continue to bring in badly needed foreign currency to preserve Jordan's traditional markets abroad.

Tunisia, Libya ratify oil, gas accord

TUNIS (R) — Libya and Tunisia have ratified an accord on offshore drilling for oil and gas. The accord provides for joint exploration and exploitation of oil and gas in a 3,000 square kilometre zone in the Gulf of Gabes. It also provides that 10 per cent of the revenue from a Libyan offshore oil field, Al Boui, will be devoted to joint Libyan-Tunisian development projects. The two countries also reached final agreement on a fisheries accord, agreed on joint efforts to combat locusts and made plans to set up a company for audio-visual production, TAP, the official Tunisian news agency reported.

Iran's oil revenue increases by \$1.5b

NICOSIA (R) — Higher crude oil prices have added \$1.5 billion to Iran's revenue in the past three months. Oil Minister Golamreza Aqazadeh has said. "We are now selling our oil at 50 cents to a dollar more than official OPEC prices," Aqazadeh told Tehran radio. "I have calculated that in the past three months, our country's revenue has increased by \$1.5 billion due to the higher prices," he added.

Australia expects 'tourism explosion'

SYDNEY (R) — Australia will witness a tourism explosion in the 1990s which could inject over 70 billion dollars (\$55 billion) into the economy, the Australian Tourist Commission has said. The commission said it expected 7.5 million people — equivalent to almost half the present population of Australia — to visit the "lucky country" in 2000. This compares with 2.25 million visitors in 1988 and a forecast made two years ago that five million would spend their vacation here in 2000. The numbers of Japanese visitors will continue to rise sharply but Asian countries other than Japan will supply the most visitors by the turn of the century, it said.

Israeli trade with S. Africa stays strong

TEL AVIV (R) — South Africa's ambassador to Israel said Thursday there had been little change in trade between the two countries despite sanctions Israel imposed in September 1987.

Ambassador Johan Viljoen said military cooperation had ceased but he did not know whether any military contracts were still in operation. Existing contracts were allowed to run their course under the sanctions but new contracts were barred.

"There has not been much change (in the economic field) although trade initially decreased dramatically after the measures were introduced," Viljoen said at a news briefing.

"The figures for 1988 show that volume of trade was somewhat lower than in 1987 although the value of South African exports to Israel was roughly the same, whereas Israeli exports increased," he said.

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Land department earns JD 4.5m in 3 months

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Lands and Survey Department's revenues in the first quarter of 1989 amounted to JD 4.5 million, according to department officials. They said that the revenues were collected in fees on selling and buying real estate, property registration and other affiliated services. In the first two months of 1989 alone, the officials said, the department collected JD 3.5 million.

Oil firms to spend \$274m in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Oil companies will spend about 750 million ringgits (\$274.5 million) to drill about 45 exploration wells in Malaysian waters this year, according to a government report. The investment is three times more than that of last year, according to the news bulletin of the government-owned National Petroleum Corporation, or Petronas. The report also quoted Abdur Aziz Mahmud, Petronas vice president for exploration and production, as saying the company has signed 17 new production sharing agreements with 26 multinational oil companies over the past 18 months. Malaysia produces about 550,000 barrels of oil per day.

Job restriction angers Chinese students

PEKING (R) — China said Thursday its half-a-million students graduating in 1989 would not be allowed to seek their own jobs — an announcement that brought anger on campuses and in effect halted a key labour reform. The People's Daily quoted education officials as saying China's traditional system of centrally assigning jobs to its new graduates would be reimposed once more, despite student enthusiasm for a partial freeing of the job market in 1988. China gave great publicity last year to moves which allowed thousands of graduates to find their own jobs on their own terms and avoid the fate dreaded by many — of being sent to a dead-end post in a remote area, possible for life. The People's Daily said however the move had brought "negative effects." "Some students' expectations are unrealistically high," it quoted an official as saying.

Dry spring badly hits Turkish farms

ANKARA (R) — Turkey, hit by the driest spring in three decades, is braced for a reduced wheat harvest, cuts in exports and the need to finance costly imports.

"We have had the worst lack of spring rains in 30 years and the crop has been badly affected," grain board chairman Ahmet Ozgunes told Reuters.

He said the harvest was likely to be about 10 per cent below last year's record 20.5 million tonnes and the drop could be higher unless substantial rain falls.

Agricultural sources said the crop could be down a quarter on last year. "Such a drop would be a disaster," one said.

About half Turkey's 18-million-strong workforce farm wheat, barley, lentils and chickpeas in country normally self-sufficient in food.

"We expect to import good quality wheat from various sources, including the U.S. and Europe. We will wait for the end of May before making a decision," he said.

Ozgunes said Turkish wheat exports could drop substantially.

Most 1988 exports went to Mediterranean basin countries and neighbours such as the Soviet Union, Iran, Iraq and Syria.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, April 13, 1989		Central Bank official rates
Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	538.0	541.0
Pound Sterling	910.0	921.3
Dollars	227.7	229.1
Swiss franc	322.9	327.8
French franc	84.5	85.2

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

	April 8-12	April 1-5
Daily average	JD 335,621	JD 552,375
Total volume	JD 1,678,104	JD 2,671,877
Total shares	876,351	1,934,197
No. of contracts	1,173	2,612
Sectoral		

Sports

Old slugger Robinson finally goes down

NEW YORK (AP) — Sugar Ray Robinson was a fighter from his dancing feet, to his flashing fists, to his psyche.

Jimmy Doyle died at dawn after being knocked out in the eighth round in a bid to win the welterweight title from Robinson in 1947.

An inquest was held and the coroner asked, "Mr. Robinson, were you trying to hurt him?"

Robinson replied, "It's my business to get him in trouble."

Two months later, Robinson fought Flash Sebastian in a non-title bout in New York.

In the first round, Sebastian rattled Robinson with a left hook to the head.

"Ray came right back with a left hook and knocked him colder than a mackerel," Teddy Brenner, a longtime matchmaker, recalled Wednesday.

"They had to take him out on a stretcher."

Ray Robinson got countless opponents in trouble and made countless others look foolish.

He was the Sugar man, flashy both in and out of the ring —

tabbed the "best fighter pound-for-pound in the world" before he retired in 1965 at age 44, a quarter century after his first pro fight.

Robinson died Wednesday, at age 67, his claim as being the best ever — always an arguable claim — still legitimate.

Robinson won the welter-weight championship and held it until he won the middleweight title for the first of five times by stopping Jake Lamotta in the 13th round in 1951.

His record was 175-19-6, with 110 knockouts.

"I don't know anybody better at his craft than he was," said Archie Moore, the former light heavyweight champion, a craftsman, whose career was even longer than Robinson's.

"He was a stylist. He never copied anything off anybody. Generations of fighters have copied his style, including Muhammad Ali."

"He was hard to fight," said Gene Fullmer, who was an archival of Robinson's. "He was fast, quick and smart."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1988 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AK76 ♦Q93 ♦Q84 ♦Q63
The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ 2 ♦ ?

What action do you take?

A.—There's nothing you can do for the moment. A bid of two spades would be forcing, and could propel the auction to too high a level on a hand where you might have neither the strength nor the fit for a three-level contract. Pass.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦Q76 ♦Q103 ♦Q873 ♦Q52

Partner opens the bidding with one-no trump. What action do you take?

A.—In theory, with 8-9 points opposite partner's no trump opening, you should invite game by raising. However, we have remarked before that queens are overvalued in the point count, and here you have neither a long suit nor good intermediates to compensate. Pass.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K62 ♦Q62 ♦Q72 ♦Q65

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 0 Pass 1 ♦ Pass

3 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ ?

What do you bid now?

A.—No doubt you are sorry you ever said a word, but the one thing you can't do is pass. Your only option in this awkward situation is to take a false preference to three diamonds. If partner's jump shift is based on spade support, he will show it at his next turn and you will be able to bid out at four spades.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦K62 ♦Q1054 ♦QAK6 ♦Q3

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♦ Dbl Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A.—With the equivalent of 10 points, you should jump in your best suit when responding to a takeout double. Here, therefore, you should bid three hearts. That action is invitational, not forcing. If you bid only two hearts, re-read the chapter on responding to takeout doubles. You might have been forced to make that bid without a single point in your hand!

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦8 ♦1965 ♦Q32 ♦AQ16943

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♦ Dbl ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Even if you play that jump after a takeout double are preemptive, you should bid only two clubs with this holding. Your ace-queen of clubs behind the double is a significant defensive asset, and a preemptive bid tends to deny that much in the way of defense. A typical hand for a jump to three clubs would be six to the K Q J and out.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K62 ♦Q62 ♦Q72 ♦Q65

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 0 Pass 1 ♦ Pass

3 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ ?

What do you bid now?

A.—Don't try to guess what suit partner has. He could have no more than length in spades. The correct action is to double. Since he has not bid, that is for takeout, but he has the right to convert to penalty if he deems that action to be correct (highly unlikely here because of your powerhouse).

For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letters, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Graf, Navratilova, Sabatini advance

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida (AP) — Steffi Graf, Martina Navratilova and Gabriela Sabatini all scored straight-set victories Thursday to reach the quarterfinals of the Bausch and Lomb championships. The top-ranked Graf needed only 41 minutes to beat Laura Lapi 6-1, 6-0. Second-seeded Navratilova cruised past Linda Ferrando 6-1, 6-1 in 53 minutes. No. 3 Sabatini's serve was particularly sharp as she beat Jana Pospisilova 6-3, 6-3.

Argentines retain top junior singles spots

LONDON (AP) — Argentine teen-agers Fernando Meligeni and Federica Haumuller retained the top spots in boys' and girls' singles in the International Tennis Federation World Junior rankings released Friday. After 34 tournaments, the top 10 rankings in singles and doubles remained unchanged, with Meligeni holding a 165-point lead over Aki Rabunen of Finland on the boys' singles. Haumuller leading the girls' singles by 85 points over another Argentine, Florencia Labat. Haumuller also topped the girls' doubles ranking, 105 points ahead of Ecuador's Nuria Niemes. In boys' doubles, Oliver Fernandez of Mexico was in first place with Patricio Arnold of Argentina second, 80 points

performed with the chemicals only briefly in 1987 after rejoining with coach Charlie Francis. McKnight said a Canadian coach at Clemson, Peter Cross, provided the steroid dianabol in tablet form.

McKnight said he and Canadian roommates Raymond Daley, Cornell Messan and Williams were lifting the same weights as the bulkier Clemson football players. He said it was common knowledge on campus that the football players were also taking performance-enhancing drugs.

"I clearly recollect ... we used to laugh about how big and how strong we were getting," said McKnight, 30, the 10th Canadian track athlete to admit at the inquiry to using banned performance-enhancing drugs.

McKnight contradicted earlier testimony by Williams, Canada's number two sprinter after Ben Johnson, who said that he ex-

Toronto drugs inquiry continues

Drugs rife in U.S. colleges

TORONTO (R) — A Canadian Olympian Thursday said that he and fellow sprinter Desai Williams received banned anabolic steroids as far back as 1978 while attending a U.S. university on an athletics scholarship.

Dave McKnight, for 12 years a close friend and teammate of Williams, told the Canadian inquiry into drug use in sport that the pair began using muscle-building steroids in 1978 while roommates at Clemson University in South Carolina.

"I clearly recollect ... we used to laugh about how big and how strong we were getting," said McKnight, 30, the 10th Canadian track athlete to admit at the inquiry to using banned performance-enhancing drugs.

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son's idea.

Colson and another Clemson coach, Sam Narewski, were fined, ordered to community service and received suspended jail sentences after pleading guilty in 1985 to seven counts of dispensing steroids to university athletes.

McKnight told justice Charles Dubin, who is heading the inquiry, that side-effects of steroid use such as sterility, increased risk of cancer and heart problems were never discussed.

"The needles were always prepared," said McKnight, a backup to the 1984 Olympic 4x100-metres relay team.

"Some days, you could actually tell it was more than just a vitamin. One minute, you were sitting there normally and the next minute you were hysterical you were so jumpy. You knew exactly when you received steroids," he said.

The inquiry, which was called after Johnson was stripped of his Olympic 100 metres gold medal for testing positive for the anabolic steroid stanazolol in Seoul last September, resumes on April 24.

sumed training at Johnson's track club under Francis.

In April 1984, Francis sent him to see Dr. (Mario) Jamie Astaphan, who later became Johnson's private physician. McKnight said Astaphan started him on vitamins and steroids.

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New York notch fifth win running

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Two goals stood at opposite ends of England's national soccer field.

One was a soccer net, left over from last weekend's league cup championship, and it drew hardly a stare. The other was a football goalpost, and its wisbone shape cast a shadow over a crowd of players from pre-teens to pro superstars there to celebrate Europe's latest sports craze.

Paul Kilgus carried a 3-0 lead into the ninth. Vince Coleman reached on an error by stoppage Domingo Ramos and Tom Bruns homered to make it 3-2 and knock out Kilgus.

Williams came on and ended the game by striking out Jose Oquendo after Tony Peña singled. Kilgus and Williams came to the cubs in the nine-player deal in which Chicago sent Rafael Palmeiro to the Rangers in the offseason.

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In other games in the national league Wednesday, Cincinnati beat Houston 3-1, Philadelphia beat Montreal 6-3, Atlanta blanked San Diego 5-0 and San Francisco beat Los Angeles 3-1.

Reds 3, Astros 1

Paul O'Neill hit a three-run double with none out in the ninth inning to give the Reds the victory.

Astros starter Rick Rhoden and reliever Larry Andersen had combined on a five-hit shutout over eight innings before Dave Smith started the ninth.

Phillies 6, Expos 3

Mike Schmidt, Von Hayes and Ron Jones homered in the third inning off former teammate Kevin Gross. The Phillies, winners of three straight, had four home runs, three doubles and a triple off Gross, 1-1, who was traded to Montreal in the offseason. The last time the Phillies hit three home runs in an inning was July 26, 1987, against Atlanta, when Milt Thompson, Hayes and Schmidt did the job.

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Andy Capp

